

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification and abstract have been amended as suggested. The examiner's careful comments are appreciated.

Page 9 of the specification as it appears in the Patent Office's records does not relate to this application and is incorrect. This page was apparently mixed up with another application by the Patent Office during the initial processing of the application, since it does not relate to any application filed by applicant's undersigned attorney or by any other attorney in the office for applicant's undersigned attorney. The standard procedure in applicant's undersigned attorney's office is to photocopy all application papers for their files immediately prior to mailing the application to the PTO. The file copies of the application include the correct page 9, a copy of which is enclosed. The missing portion of paragraph [0041] and paragraphs [0042], [0043] and [0044] which are on the misplaced page 9 have been added by amendment. It is believed that these paragraphs do not contain any new matter.

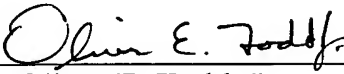
The office action required a description of reference numbers "14a" and 4b". This description was on the misplaced page 9 and is included in paragraph [0042].

Claims 1-12 remain in this application. The examiner has allowed claims 1-10 and has indicated that claims 11 and 12 would be allowable if amended to be more definite. In view of the amendments to claims 11 and 12, it is believed that claims 1-12 are now all in condition for allowance.

Certified copies of the two priority applications are filed herewith.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure

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apparent to those skilled in the art, but preferably, all components except the modules 11a, 11b, 11c etc. are installable in the aircraft or other vehicle independently of the modules.

[0042] In figure 3 there is shown a modified system 10 installed by the method of the invention. In this example the individual modules are arranged in the system 10 in pairs, 11a, 11b and 11c, 11d, with each pair of modules 11a, 11b and 11c, 11d having respective product gas outlet ducts 14a, 14b which are connected together and to a main product gas duct 14, which extends to and is connected to the product gas distribution conduit 28. Thus the outlet ducts 14a, 14b of all of the beds 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d are all, indirectly, connected to the product gas distribution conduit 28.

[0043] In this embodiment, the paired beds 11a, 11b and 11c, 11d may be operated as a pair with each bed 11a, 11b of a pair being operated in a charging phase, whilst the other bed of the pair is vented. However, the beds of the pairs may be operated with other beds or pairs of beds of the system 10 by the controller (not seen in figure 3) as and when required. Otherwise the beds 11a, 11b and 11c, 11d are operated similarly to the beds in the previously described embodiment.

[0044] By coupling beds in distinct pairs, as indicated in figure 3, rather than coupling the individual beds direct to the product gas distribution line 28, it is expected that improved purging of a bed being vented (regenerated) may result.